Inicio de una histórica presidencia en México, Claudia Sheinbum Pardo
Promesa de cambio en Puerto Rico

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Hurricane chaos

Capitalism fails in a crisis

By Stephen Millies

What happened in Florida is horrendous and preventable. Millions of people were trying to escape as Hurricane Milton approached. Mile after mile of expressways were clogged with cars, and over a thousand gas stations ran out of fuel.

The Pentagon has close to a trillion-dollar budget. At least $175 billion has been spent on the U.S. proxy war with the Russian Federation in Ukraine. Another $18 billion has been spent on the genocidal war against Gaza and all of Palestine.

Climate catastrophe: How fossil fuel giants fueled storm crisis

Yet the U.S. capitalist state is incapable of protecting its own population from disasters as capitalist climate change makes them all the more likely to happen.

What we've seen in Florida is a repeat of the same preventable tragedy that happened during Hurricane Katrina in 2005. At least 1,392 people were killed as President Bush let Black and poor people drown and die in New Orleans.

How are disabled people, prisoners, people needing dialysis treatments, going to survive the current hurricane? To the billionaire class and its stooge, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, all these people are expendable.

One obvious way to evacuate people would be to mobilize public transportation. Instead of Air Force planes being used to send U.S. troops to Western Asia, the aircraft would be used to carry thousands of people to safety. Commercial airliners could move many more, with free fares paid out of the misnamed defense budget.

Buses would be mobilized as well. Meanwhile, hotels and empty apartments — kept off the market to jack up rents — would be prepared to house families.

Continued on page 14

U.S. cities join world in solidarity with Palestine & Lebanon

SLL photo Steve Millies

20,000 march for Palestine and Lebanon in NYC

SLL Photo

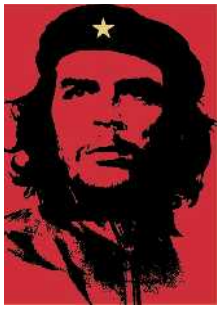
New Orleans coalition shuts downtown in support of Palestine

SLL photo: Gloria Verdieu

Thousands gather in San Diego to protest Israeli genocide

No more war! Young working-class activists expose U.S. imperialism

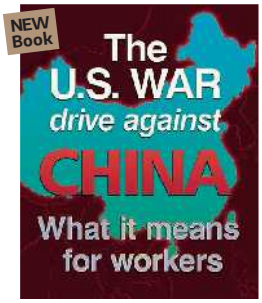
Sales of stolen Palestinian land must be stopped!



Elections, war and wages

Meat monopolies rip off everyone

Cuba to Palestine: The spirit of Che



Nobel winner: Gaza like Japan after A-bombs

Biden-Harris' attack on Iran

Protesters freed in Nigeria

Meat monopolies ripped off McDonald's and everybody else

Skyrocketing food prices are a corporate conspiracy

By Stephen Millies

McDonald's filed an antitrust suit on Oct. 4 against the four biggest meatpackers, claiming the outfits conspired to jack up beef prices since at least 2015. The four accused dead animal monopolists — Cargill, JBS, National Beef Packing Company, and Tyson — had total sales of $315 billion last year.

Meanwhile, McDonald's — the world's #1 junk food pusher — raked in $25 billion. Its local franchises, which exploit over two million workers, had sales of tens of billions more.

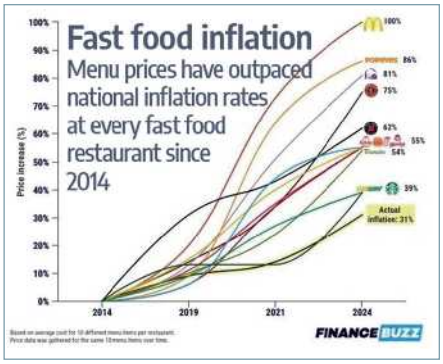
All these mega-rich corporations are criminal cartels. When they start accusing each other, the working class can learn some of the truth.

According to government figures, food prices rose by 27% between January 2020 (the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic) and September 2024. Many families and individuals are paying even more.

Millions of poor and working people can't afford to shop at supermarkets anymore. Instead, they're buying bags of noodles and other food items at so-called dollar stores.

There were nearly 22 million millionaires in the United States in 2021. The same year, 53 million people lined up at food banks across the country to get something to eat for themselves and their families.

The dramatic increase in food prices wasn't the result of droughts, although capitalist climate change is harming agriculture. The supply chain issues at the seaports hardly affected grocery prices since most food is produced domestically.



The price gouging certainly isn't the fault of immigrant workers, who account for a majority of U.S. farmworkers, many of whom are undocumented. Billionaire Trump supporter Nelson Peltz — who controls McDonald's archrival Wendy's — refused to pay farm workers more than a penny per pound for picking tomatoes.

Monopoly allowed Cargill, JBS, National Beef Packing Company, and Tyson to boost beef prices. The four outfits now control more than 80% of the beef market.

Take over the packers and the supermarket chains!

As McDonald's suit points out, "Conspiracies are easier to organize and sustain when only a few firms control a large share of the market."

McDonald's should know. It's being sued for antitrust violations for denying the right of employees to work at another McDonald's location for better wages. This "no-poach" rule is illegal yet common in the corporate world.

As far back as 1888, the United States Senate investigated the meatpackers' price-fixing in the buying and selling of livestock. Numerous anti-trust suits followed over the decades.

None of these cases stopped the continuing monopolization of meatpacking, poultry production, or any other industry. Nor did antitrust laws stop grocery chains from swallowing each other.

The proposed acquisition of Albertsons by Kroger will create a supermarket monster with 5,000 stores and 700,000 employees. Along with the even bigger Walmart, these outfits will control 29% of U.S. grocery sales.

While the meat monopolies raised prices through the roof, over 59,000 workers in their plants fell ill from COVID-19. At least 269 died.

During the pandemic, people were urged to keep six feet apart. Meat bosses sneered at social distancing. On many meat and poultry production lines, workers were just two feet away from each other, almost guaranteeing sickness and possible death.

Then, Smithfield Foods CEO Kenneth Sullivan wrote to Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts that "social distancing is a nicety that makes sense only for people with laptops." In a letter to Senators Elizabeth Warren and Cory Booker, Sullivan declared, "For better or worse, our plants are what they are."

"For better or worse," hundreds of workers died while the meat monopolists collected billions more in profit. All the capitalist monopolies need to be taken over by the people. #

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Elections at a time of growing war budget and shrinking wages

By Gary Wilson

The polls published by the mainstream media all say that the presidential race between Kamala Harris and Donald Trump is extremely close.

The money race is not so close. In the big money competition between the billionaires, the Harris campaign had raised more than $1 billion as of Oct. 9, three times as much as the Trump campaign had raised. While billionaire Elon Musk has made a public show of buying into Trump, Harris is still getting most of the big money from the billionaires and millionaires so far.

Trump could win anyway.

In the U.S., the Electoral College decides the presidential election, not the popular vote. Harris could win the popular vote — though it's not guaranteed — yet still lose to Trump in the electoral college.

This system has dominated presidential elections this century. In 2000, Al Gore received more votes than George W. Bush, but the Supreme Court intervened and gave Bush the Electoral College selection. In 2016, Hillary Clinton received almost three million more votes than Donald Trump, but the Electoral College gave Trump the presidency.

Donald Trump is counting on the Electoral College system to put him back in the White House. (Read more about the Electoral College from 2016 when it gave Trump the presidency in "Black voter suppression near 1950s level.")

Because of the restrictions imposed by the Electoral College system, the presidential election is now said to hinge on just six "swing states" — Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Nevada. These states will essentially override all votes in the rest of the country.

Enforce an Israeli ceasefire now

Harris could win these "swing states" if the Biden administration would enforce an Israeli ceasefire right now. Instead, Harris has repeatedly declared that she supports Israel's war. That's commonly known as support for genocide.

Nobody missed the fact that when Israel escalated its war, expanding into Lebanon, Biden responded by increasing the delivery of weapons systems and, for the first time, openly deploying U.S. troops in support of the expanded war.

Boeing strikers demand a 40% raise over 4 years just to keep up with inflation. The company's 'final offer' was 30%, which would mean a pay cut.

When hurricanes Helene and Milton hit the Southeast, devastating Florida and the Appalachian region of North Carolina, there was no similar response. FEMA responded, but more was needed. There was no bonus equivalent to the $billions in bunker-buster bombs going for hurricane relief.

Harris' militarism and enthusiasm for Israel's war are costing her votes in the swing states, where a majority support an immediate ceasefire and an end to the war.

During an interview on ABC News' "The View" on Oct. 8, when asked if she would have approached anything differently than President Biden, Vice President Harris said that "there is not a thing that comes to mind."

Any worker watching the show might have said "Wow" and politely changed the channel. Many likely cursed the TV screen.

Most feel it is a recession

Most working people think that the economy is in a recession. It certainly feels that way; there is no need for data analysis or AI to figure that out.

Even though inflation is beginning to slow down, the price increases are cumulative, meaning things still cost much more than they did back in 2019 — and prices continue to rise. The price of a Big Mac has gone up 21% since 2019, and it's expected to go higher. McDonald's says it has to raise prices more because meat prices continue to rise.

One of the primary drivers of inflation is military spending. There were inflation crises during World Wars I and II, as well as the Korean and Vietnam wars. Behind the inflation today, with the U.S./NATO proxy war against Russia in Ukraine, the U.S.-armed and -funded war on Gaza, and the increasing war buildup in Taiwan, is the trillion dollar annual war budget and a national debt of $34.38 trillion.

Wages stagnant

Rising prices have hit working-class wages hardest. While there are fewer middle-income jobs available, inflation is biting hard even for those who still have these jobs.

Wages have increased slightly, but purchasing power has decreased. Stagnant wages are a concern, especially for many young people who are struggling to find employment.

The official poverty rate has increased every year of Biden's term in office. Currently, 25% of seniors are attempting to get by on $15,000 or less. They can't afford to pay for essential services, including prescription medications, healthcare, and other fundamental necessities.

High interest rates have put the possibility of home ownership out of reach for most working people. But rising rents make any housing harder to get and keep. Homelessness has reached record levels, with nearly a million homeless every night, many without shelter. This is the highest number of homeless people ever documented in the U.S.

As of August 2024, credit card debt in the U.S. is $1.14 trillion, a 5.8% increase from the previous year and $215 billion higher than the previous record set in 2019. Credit card delinquency is rising, and many are overextended.

Millions of workers (at least 20 million) had full-time jobs earning less than the official poverty level for a family of four (that's $29,950). Many workers hold two jobs to try to make ends meet. Good jobs are not available; most of the jobs created during Biden's years have been low-pay, non-union service jobs.

Another 3 million workers have lost their jobs due to hurricanes or other natural disasters in the last year. FEMA assistance primarily goes to businesses and infrastructure; a fraction goes to job assistance, which is hard to impossible to get. #

The U.S. war drive against China, what it means for workers

On the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, Struggle-La Lucha published a new book:

"The U.S. war drive against China, what it means for workers."

Celebrating 75 years of liberation

Oct. 1, 2024, marks the 75th anniversary of China's transformative revolution, which liberated the nation from feudal oppression and imperialist control.

Under the leadership of Mao Zedong, widely recognized as Chairman Mao, the Communist Party of China achieved what many deemed impossible — inspiring not just China but working and oppressed peoples worldwide.

The revolution ended China's "Century of Humiliation," which began with British imperialism's First Opium War in 1839.

Over the past 75 years, there has been significant progress for the masses and China's working class.

Today, China is a global scientific powerhouse, boasting achievements in high-speed trains, affordable electric vehicles, pollution reduction, carbon emission control, and space exploration. The People's Republic has also made significant strides in health care, education, and sports.

At no point has U.S. monopoly capitalism adopted a hands-off approach toward the development of socialism in China or elsewhere. It has consistently intervened against socialism worldwide.

The maneuvers by U.S. imperialism have been increasingly more dangerous and now point in the direction of war.

The global working class, including U.S. workers, must stand united in solidarity with the working class of China.

This book, "The U.S. War Drive Against China: What it Means for Workers," aims to illuminate the growing dangers posed by a potential U.S. war against China and reveal the working class's real enemies.

Get "The U.S. war drive against China, what it means for workers," available now aT tinyurl.com/USWarDriveChina #

U.S. to be ready for war on China by 2027: Navy Chief

By Gary Wilson

USMC Marine in a live fire drill.
Photo: USMC Sgt. Tayler Schwamb

On Tuesday, Oct. 15, a large-scale military exercise named Kamandang commenced in the Philippines. The exercise, scheduled to run until Oct. 25, involves over 2,300 military personnel from the United States, the Philippines, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and Britain.

Kamandang coincides with a separate naval exercise taking place in northern Luzon Island, Philippines.

The exercise will include live fire drills, amphibious landings, and training for possible chemical and biological warfare. It will take place in Burgos, Ilocos Norte, and Basco and Itbayat in Batanes, areas facing the Taiwan Strait.

The United States has been increasing its military operations in the Asia-Pacific region, including:

- Deploying more aircraft carriers, bombers, and submarines
- Introducing the Typhon mid-range missile launcher system
- Expanding military bases in the Philippines from five to nine under a new defense agreement

The U.S. has also been conducting joint exercises with South Korea and Japan.

The trilateral military alliance of AUKUS — Australia, Britain, and the U.S. — is bringing Japan in for military drills as well as increasing NATO involvement in its regional military strategies. North Korea and China have observed these developments and accused the U.S. of trying to create an Asian version of NATO. The newly elected Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba has recently proposed that such a formation of a "collective self-defense system," referring to NATO, is "essential."

The United States is gearing up for a potential war on China.

Adm. Lisa Franchetti, the Chief of Naval Operations and the highest-ranking officer in the U.S. Navy, revealed a strategic plan on Sept. 18 to achieve preparedness for a conflict with China by 2027. This initiative reflects the U.S. military's belligerent intent to incite war with Beijing. #

Capitalism's climate catastrophe: How fossil fuel giants fueled the storm crisis

By Scott Scheffer

The mountain community of Asheville, N.C., was utterly destroyed by flooding.

On Sept. 26, Hurricane Helene hit near Tampa, Florida, and tore north and then northwest through Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina, even reaching the eastern part of Tennessee.

Helene stretched about 400 miles across and sustained 140 mph winds, smashing into homes and leaving millions without electricity. The flooding and devastation from the wind were at a historic level.

No areas near the path were spared, and the mountain community of Asheville, North Carolina, was utterly destroyed by flooding. A local journalist reported seeing two homes being swept away by raging water that then crashed into each other.

Just two weeks later, Hurricane Milton landed 75 miles south of Helene's landfall and ripped its way north/northwest across the panhandle and then out into the Atlantic. Work crews were clearing debris from Helene when Milton arrived.

It's not unusual for hurricanes to spawn a few tornados. Usually, they're weak and fizzle out quickly. Not these. The storm yielded a record 38 of them, and they smashed everything in their paths.

As of Oct. 15, the combined death toll had climbed to 268, and there were still 192 people unaccounted for. Damage estimates are all over the map, from $35 billion to $200 billion.

These were two of the most destructive storms in history. "Thousand-year" storms are happening frequently now. Hurricanes, droughts, and cyclones are increasing in severity. Heat waves are more frequent and threaten to make some cities that millions call home uninhabitable.

This is all a product of the capitalist economy. Giant energy companies and their banking partners have pushed the exploitation of fossil fuels, spewed gigatons of CO2, methane, and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, and caused global warming.

They've spent millions of dollars to spread misinformation to deny climate change or push the responsibility onto individuals. British Petroleum invented the whole idea of a "carbon footprint," as if the working class could just change our habits and solve the problem.

Oil company scientists have known the consequences of continued fossil fuel use for decades. They kept the information secret, ridiculed scientists who sounded the alarm and ignored endless dire warnings from the United Nations.

Fracking for natural gas intensified as the U.S. took over the European market, a consequence of the U.S. proxy war against Russia. During roughly the same period, Biden began handing out new oil drilling contracts like candy on Halloween.

Instead of yielding to the growing awareness and anger over the global capitalist destruction of the planet, the energy giants have literally stepped on the gas. Emissions of greenhouse gases are now at an all-time high.

Scholarly reports have also revealed that military activity is responsible for a hefty percentage of greenhouse gases. But the U.S. is the motivator of constant military exercises to threaten China, active wars in Ukraine, and now the horrible Zionist genocidal campaign against Gaza and war against the people of Lebanon.

Hurricanes are not only more severe

As the earth's atmosphere has heated, hurricanes are not only more severe but also intensify more quickly, leaving less time for preparation and evacuations.

This was particularly so with Helene and Milton. That rapid intensification was noted about Hurricane Otis in October 2023, which slammed into Acapulco, Mexico, as well. High ocean temperatures also fueled a cyclone in February of last year that was the longest-lasting cyclone ever recorded — Cyclone Freddy. It lasted for 36 days, crossed the entire Indian Ocean, and ravaged Madagascar, Malawi, and Mozambique.

Ocean temperatures have reached all-time highs in the last several years, alarming climatologists.

This phenomenon is creating superstorms. Rising sea temperatures are destroying marine life and acidifying seawater, and sea levels are rising.

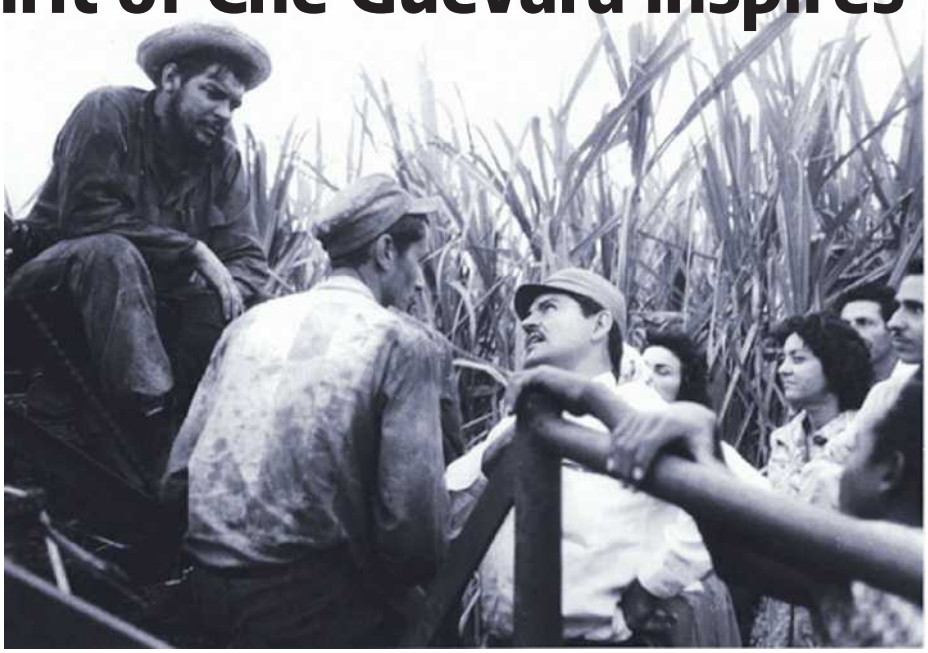
That happens for the same reason that a pot of boiling water rises as it warms. Water expands from heat.

The Gulf of Mexico's rise in sea level is nearly twice that of the rest of the world, which means storm surges are worse. Beyond that, the heat and energy from the oceans is being picked up by tropical storms, fueling their rapid development into more destructive, less predictable hurricanes.

Continued on page 14

From Cuba to Palestine:
The enduring spirit of Che Guevara inspires

***Ernesto "Che" Guevara** was killed Oct. 9, 1967. Che was an Argentine-born doctor who contributed tremendously to the Cuban Revolution, both in the military struggle against the U.S.-backed Batista dictatorship and in the building of socialism after 1959. He also participated in the African liberation struggle, fighting alongside anti-colonial forces in the Congo. Che died at only 39 years old during another epic of internationalist solidarity in Bolivia. While organizing with guerrillas there, he was captured by CIA-trained and directed Bolivian paramilitaries. Che's example lives on. For almost 60 years since his death, he has inspired revolutionaries from the Black Panthers, right in the belly of the beast, to contemporary Palestinian freedom fighters. Following, Colby Byrd, a worker living in Baltimore, honors Che Guevara as a revolutionary force against oppression.*



Che Guevara in Camagüey, Cuba, testing the new machinery for the harvest of the sugarcane, 1963. Photo by Cuban photographer Alberto Korda, who also took the iconic portrait of Che that is now emblazoned on countless banners and T-shirts.

By Colby Byrd

Che Guevara's story is not just about an individual. Rather, it captures the many stories of all those who worked, fought, struggled, and died during the Cuban Revolution. It is the collection of all of those stories, all of those lives lived and ended, that freed Cuba from its imperialist domination. This focus on others is important to keep close to the heart of any revolutionary struggle at any level of intensity.

Before his execution, Che proclaimed these final words: "I know you've come to kill me. Shoot, you are only going to kill a man."

Before he was a revolutionary, he was a person — a man with passion, dreams, and love. This movement, this forever struggle against the ever-invasive tendrils of imperialism, this epic endeavor … is championed by normal people.

Che and the fighting people of the Cuban Revolution were students, workers, peasants, parents, and children. It was only when they entwined themselves with the struggle that they became revolutionaries. Fred Hampton said that you can kill a revolutionary, but you can't kill The Revolution. Che Guevara was executed — murdered by imperialist forces — yet Cuba stands, defying U.S. imperialism to this day. Countless people have fallen victim across the world, bombed, beaten, and battered by U.S. imperialism, and still today, people go out and fight in the name of international solidarity. The love of our class siblings guides us to challenge the systems that brutalize us every day.

"Let me say, at the risk of seeming ridiculous, that the true revolutionary is guided by great feelings of love."

— Che Guevara

This Love that Che speaks about is not your typical love. It is not the same love you have for your favorite foods, your fond memories of the past, your hobbies and passions. It is not even the love you may share with a significant other. No, the Love Che speaks of is different. It manifests differently in everyone and is not fully explainable.

It is a transformative, ever-amplifying, and anarchic feeling that leads people to abandon or break the capitalist shackles that restrained them; to lift their arms and voices in the creation of a better future shaped by the collective struggle. The struggle is enacted by this tremendous feeling of love.

This love can be seen today in both the direct struggle in Palestine and in the international support for that struggle. To put it plainly, the Palestinian Resistance of today is fighting for its people's very right to exist. And I do not just mean the fighters engaged in direct combat against the U.S.-backed Israeli Occupation Forces and roaming gangs of Zionist settlers. I mean everyone. Every living soul that continues to stay and find a way to survive against the genocidal occupation.

In this digital age, all forms of defiance are captured and uploaded online to be shared and immortalized by all who come into contact with it. During this time of relentless Israeli brutality, it is not just images of combat that show defiance, but also images of people sharing what little food they have with animals; videos of people cleaning the debris out of their homes or what is left of them, and moving back in to stay; videos of children expressing that they are unafraid of the Zionist enemy.

Many other depictions of love for their culture and way of life are documented and shared across the world.

Around the world, this love is seen as millions take to the streets, demanding an end to the slaughter of their class siblings in occupied Palestine. Students on campuses creating tent encampments, workers striking in support of the Resis-

global resistance

tance, and more and more people seeing the horror for what it is and finding a way to say enough is enough.

People around the world are joining the struggle however they can. Through any means available the people of the world are showing their solidarity with the struggle in Palestine.

The People of Cuba, forever fighting alongside those in the struggle, are offering free schooling to the people of Palestine on critical skills they will need to rebuild their society. The people of China and Russia meet with Palestinian dignitaries and leaders of the Resistance, offering aid and assistance wherever they can.

Forget about the lines on maps that divide us and focus on the real human emotions that connect us all. This love lives there.

Marcellus Williams, a man murdered by the state of Missouri, in his last moments, wrote a poem honoring the resilience of Palestinian children in the face of their evil oppressors. Marcellus Williams, chained on death row, locked far away from the struggle outside, felt something within him. He felt something pull on that little red string of Fate, and in those final moments, it wasn't a message of hate that came out.

He didn't curse the state for its illegal and barbarous actions; he didn't ask for forgiveness or look to a future that wasn't coming. No, as he was meeting his end, he championed within himself the resilience of the Palestinian children who go out every day and live their lives, not knowing if that day could be their last. Over two million people attempted to get the decision to execute Marcellus Williams reversed. Over two million people felt the love in their hearts move them enough to fight back against the system within the belly of the beast.

The struggle needs more Che Guevaras and Marcellus Williams. Normal people guided by love to achieve or face down the unimaginable. Through love, connections and communication can form. Through connection and communication rises organization and collective power. Finally, this collective power – reinforced and powered by the People, shaped into a united fist – will fight Imperial domination wherever it resides. #

Thermoelectrical Center Antonio Maceo de Santiago de Cuba.
Photo: Granma

Cuba faces nationwide blackout, activists renew calls for an end to the blockade

The Ministry of Energy and Mines in Cuba announced on Friday, October 18, that the National Electrical Energy System experienced a complete blackout due to an unexpected outage at the Antonio Guiteras Thermoelectric Power Plant. They also reported that the Electrical Union and relevant authorities were diligently working to restore full service. Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel addressed the situation, emphasizing, "We are prioritizing our attention to solving this critical energy issue for the nation. There will be no rest until full service is restored."

By Friday evening, the Ministry of Energy and Mines (MINEM) reported progress in the phased restoration of the electrical system. According to their report, partial generation had begun at ENERGAS, Cuba's gas company, which was supplying energy to the thermoelectric plants. Micro-electrical systems in Villa Clara, Holguín, Granma, and Guantánamo were also back online.

Engineer Lázaro Guerra Hernández, the Director of Electricity at MINEM, provided an update during a press conference, noting that the restoration efforts started immediately after the Guiteras outage. He mentioned that they were beginning energy distribution to the Santa Cruz del Norte Thermoelectric Power Plant, and a generator was to be activated at the Mariel floating power plant, which was currently directing fuel for power generation in the area. Guerra Hernández stressed that while the restoration process is careful and systematic, they are committed to speeding it up as much as possible.

The day before the blackout, the general director of the National Electric Union (UNE), Alfredo López Valdés, had addressed the nation in a televised broadcast about the ongoing electrical sector crisis. He pointed out a significant challenge for the power grid: the difficulties in securing fuel and a long-standing fuel deficit, which he attributed to many of the electrical grid issues.

López Valdés also laid out a comprehensive plan to tackle these challenges, highlighting the need to optimize thermoelectric plants and micro-electrical systems while ensuring they have adequate fuel supplies for operation.

The blockade's role in the blackout

A major obstacle for Cuba in securing enough fuel for its electrical grid is the series of sanctions and coercive measures imposed by the United States. The blockade leads to substantial economic losses, estimated at $13 million a day, and restricts Cuba's access to markets and financial transactions.

In November 2019, the Trump administration sanctioned the Panamericana Corporation, a Cuban company involved in purchasing liquefied natural gas for public use, arguing it was "owned or

Continued on page 18

No more war! Young working-class

The following are addresses given by young working-class activists Jace Carter and Colby Byrd at the rally for Palestine and Lebanon in front of Baltimore City Hall on Oct. 6.

Jace Carter representing Struggle-La Lucha for Socialism and People's Power Assembly

Good afternoon sisters, brothers, and siblings! My name is Jace, and I am a proud member of both the Baltimore chapter of Struggle-La Lucha (aka the Socialist Unity Party) and the People's Power Assembly.

I just wanted to start off by saying that as a recent Loyola graduate, Shame on my university! Shame on all the universities across America repressing encampments and our international solidarity movement for Palestine!

Struggle-La Lucha, the Socialist Unity Party, is dedicated to uniting all workers and the oppressed to overthrow our murderous capitalist system, and the People's Power Assembly has fought against racist police terror and for the rights of poor and working-class people since the murder of Trayvon Martin.

Over the past year, our organizations have been tirelessly organizing people in and around the Baltimore community to show solidarity and our commitment to Palestine through marches, rallies, and direct actions, as well as education campaigns against our notorious misleaders: Mayor Brandon Scott and District Attorney Ivan "the Terrible" Bates right here in Baltimore, and Governor Wes Moore in greater Maryland.

They shamelessly continue to throw their support behind Genocide Joe and the genocidal entity of Israel! They know that participation in this grift can get them one step closer to a democratic party nomination for president. Imagine that. ...

By the way, if you didn't already know this, remember around May of last year when Ivan Bates shamelessly tweeted out pictures of himself smiling with the IDF soldiers he welcomed into our city without our consent? The same IDF Soldiers that annually train Baltimore Police Department officers! The same BPD that just received over $500 million in funding for this year! The same BPD that's currently training in a $330 million Cop City facility right down the street next to Coppin State! Yeah, Ivan finally took that shit down, who's surprised? But we will never forget.

Jace Carter

Exactly a month from now, we will have undeniably the most important election in our lifetime, an election that either will save our precious democracy or plunge us in over our heads in terrible, terrible fascism.

That's what our complicit mainstream media always loves to tell us every four years, right? For the past couple decades?! But oh, wait, what's that? The fascism's already here?! Well gee, I never would've guessed! All it takes is a quick look at TikTok and a quick look around you and our communities, our country, and the current state of the world!

You know what's actually really funny though? This illusion that the people even have a choice, if we ignore the fact that we haven't had a choice really since the founding of this country. This "choice" between one side that promises to "finish the job" in the Gaza strip and then across the rest of the Middle East, and the other side that even way before Oct. 7 has been happily throwing away billions upon billions of our taxpayer dollars to fund genocide and endless destruction in occupied Palestine, while workers continue to be starved of living wages, affordable housing, and healthcare, and students continue to have their First Amendment rights heavily repressed by ultra-liberal universities pretending to care about basic human rights!

Not to mention, FEMA recently announced a few days ago over a $9.7 billion shortfall for relief and aid for Hurricane Helene. Let that sink in for a second. A $9.7 billion shortfall for hurricane relief. Our government would rather intentionally manufacture another Katrina situation by sending over $8.7 billion to a genocidal entity to murder Palestinians and the people of Lebanon than do even the bare minimum to help those affected by Helene in the South!

Where does that leave us, where does this leave our movement, on this, the one year anniversary of one of the greatest lies our terrorist government and the terrorist Israeli entity and their media puppets have ever told before?

Our movement is at a critical juncture, a movement that's worked so hard to make our voices heard and our actions seen. No doubt this feels like another 1968, doesn't it? But we have an important choice to make this time.

Will we allow this country to be overtaken by a significantly stronger wave of fascism, whether it has a red or a blue face?!

I said: Will we allow this country to be overtaken by a significantly stronger wave of fascism, whether it has a red or a blue face?!

We, the people, choose socialism and national liberation!

We, the people, choose international solidarity over U.S. hegemony!

We, the people, say long live Palestine and long live Lebanon!

No boots on the ground, no bombs in the air! U.S. out of everywhere!

Thank you, comrades! #

activists expose U.S. imperialism

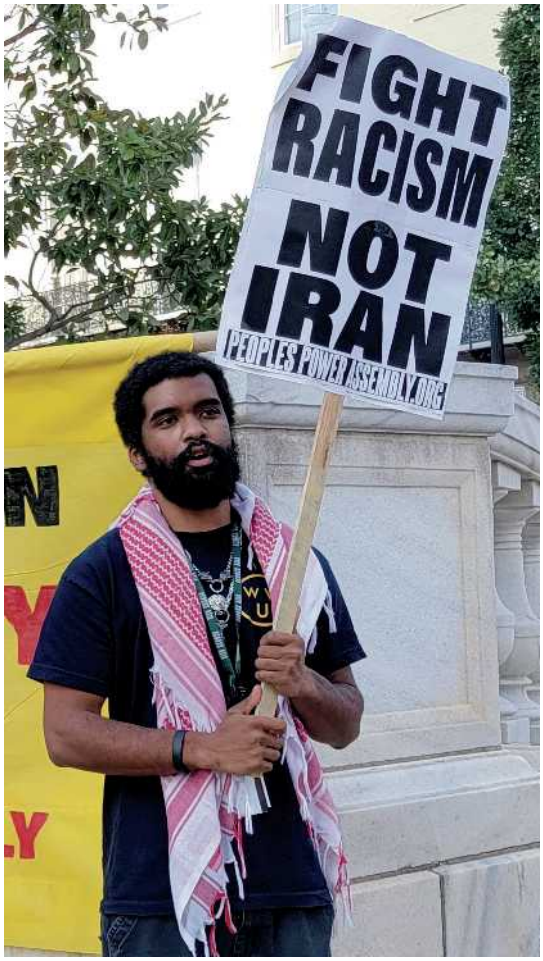
Colby Byrd representing Struggle-La Lucha for Socialism

I have no love for the Uniparty. I do not want to and will not cooperate or reach across the aisle with racists, misogynists, war profiteers, and genocide enablers. The Uniparty is trying to bury the Palestinian struggle. It is trying to delegitimize it and hide it away somehow behind a mountain of corpses. They do all of this because they are scared of the struggle and what it means. They tremble and panic as the continued resistance in occupied Palestine tears open and exposes the old contradictions that propped up imperialist domination of the globe. A domination that leads to the systematic destruction of different cultures around the world, continuing into today.

When I hear stories like the massacres at Nuseirat, Al Rashid, al-Mawasi, Tal al-Sultan, and Tulkarem my heart gets heavy with sympathy. My mind begins to race and my breathing becomes erratic as I fill with a sadness that I know all too well. It is the same feeling when I think of the Tulsa massacre or the Rosewood massacre, or Vicksburg, Memphis, Atlanta, and Springfield, to name others. All of these and the many others I didn't name were attacks by the colonizer on my people. Videos of settlers and soldiers storming mosques and homes, I close my eyes and see the Charleston church or Breyonna Taylor's apartment. The other random and targeted attacks and killings of Palestinians wound my soul in the same way the deaths of Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, George Floyd, Tamir Rice, Freddie Gray, Daunte Wright, Atatiana Jefferson, Ahmaud Arbery, Botham Jean, Philando Castile, Eric Garner, and Donnell Rochester did.

I of course cannot continue without saying that my heart bleeds for the many other Black victims of white supremacy and the insidious systems that uphold and nurture it.

These systems that oppress and kill black people here are the same systems that oppress and kill Palestinians over there. Even down to the label it's stamped with. From Amazon to police agencies, U.S. investments in Palestinian oppression and genocide are the continuation, evolution, and exportation of the systems that have systematically killed my people.



Colby Byrd

"There will be no retreat from the path of confrontation, no matter how great the sacrifices are."-- Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine

After nearly a year of War and Genocide. ...

Palestine Lives after over 70,000 tons of explosives were dropped across the occupied strip. ... Palestine Lives.

After Israeli soldiers and settlers have pillaged, and razed the land. ... Palestine Lives.

Through countless atrocities, massacres, forced starvation, and forced displacement. ... Palestine Lives.

The People, the Palestinian People live on. Through impossible odds and hardships, they claw every moment closer to true freedom. Through this brutal confrontation for national liberation, the Palestinian people have been placed by fate and time to champion the Struggle and lead the fight. This fight stretches across the entire globe and encompasses each and every one of us. It is a fight, a brawl, a war for human decency and survival.

Around the world, the ruling class is consolidating its gains wherever it can and brutally suppressing those in their way. We see it clearly in Palestine, where everyday people are fighting against occupational forces and roaming gangs of settlers. Fighting to defend their homes, their culture, and their very way of life from extermination. We see this fight in Lebanon where the people are fighting back against the Israeli terrorists invading their country. We see this kinetic action also in Sudan, Iraq, Yemen, and Iran, all against the outstretched imperialist enemy.

As the fight intensifies abroad, we here must rise to the challenge. Continue to organize and fight back in any way available. It will take all of us. The capitalists have declared total war. They show us every day, whether it be overseas or here, they have no problem killing men, women, and children, of all possible varieties for just one more dollar. We see it on the bodies of our class siblings who bear the scars of being overworked and maimed for an executive to get a bonus states away. We see in the countless recalls of food, the rising housing costs, crumbling infrastructure, and the lack of good employment, how they have tried over and over to waste us away, all to increase profits for the upper few.

They will continue to try, they will continue to harass and harm us, continue to shoot us, and stomp out our voices. They will do everything they can to sever our connection to the beating heart of revolutionary change going on in Palestine but we will break through! We will continue to live, march, protest, and fight back over here for as long as the resistance needs us to.

From the river, around the world, and back to the river, we stand united. It is indeed a revolution until the liberation of the land and of the human being.

Long Live Palestine!
Long Live Lebanon!
Long Live Yemen!
Long Live Iran!
Long Live the Resistance, and Long Live International Solidarity! #

Sales of stolen Palestinian land must be stopped!

By Stephen Millies

Photo: PAL-Awda

Super bigot Tom Cotton is no friend of Jewish people

Across the United States, demonstrations have been organized against the illegal sale of stolen Palestinian lands. Protesters compare these events to the "Indian Land Sales" that were conducted in the U.S. West.

Many of these protests have been viciously attacked by police and Zionist thugs. That was the case in Los Angeles at the Adas Torah synagogue on June 25. Brutal police attacks against protesters have also occurred in Pikesville, Maryland (just outside Baltimore), and Nassau County, New York (near New York City.)

These sales of stolen land are usually conducted in Jewish neighborhoods, often inside synagogues. Protesters — many of whom are Jewish — make clear that they are demonstrating in solidarity with Palestinians, not attacking Jewish people.

That doesn't prevent the corporate media and capitalist politicians from smearing these righteous protests as "anti-Jewish." Arkansas statesman Tom Cotton issued a statement demanding "action from DOJ [Department of Justice] and White House on synagogue attack by pro-Hamas mob."

This is the same Sen. Tom Cotton who demanded that federal troops be used to smash the protests that followed the police murder of George Floyd. The senator urged invoking the Insurrection Act that was passed in 1807 to crush revolts of enslaved Africans.

Cotton did so in a June 3, 2020, New York Times op-ed piece. This led to a revolt by the newspaper's reporters and the forced resignation of editorial page editor James Bennet.

The following month Cotton described the enslavement of African people by U.S. plantation owners as "a necessary evil." Cotton was attacking the "1619 Project," a series of New York Times articles that pointed out the racist foundation upon which the United States was built.

Civil Rights organizations, including the NAACP and the Urban League, demanded that the U.S. Senate censure Cotton for his defense of slavery. Cotton's fellow senators, half of whom are Democrats, refused to do so.

Six senators instead joined Cotton in sponsoring legislation to cut off federal funds to school districts that include material from the 1619 Project in their curriculum. This was really an attempt to drive Black history out of the schools, just like Gov. DeSantis is trying to do in Florida.

Tool of Walmart and Tyson Foods

More recently, Cotton was under fire for his Jan. 31 questioning of TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew. Cotton refused to believe that the corporate executive, born in Singapore, wasn't a citizen of the People's Republic of China or a member of the Communist Party of China.

"Tom Cotton can't tell Asians apart even when they tell him," journalist Heidi Moore tweeted. The AAPI (Asian American Pacific Islander) Victory Fund tweeted, "This line of questioning from Senator Tom Cotton is disgraceful, blatantly racist, and deeply dangerous."

Cotton doesn't represent the 140,000 poor people in Arkansas who were kicked off Medicaid last year. He's a political servant of the Walton family who owns Walmart, headquartered in Bentonville, Arkansas.

The reason why the Walton family is so filthy rich with their $267 billion fortune is that 2.1 million Walmart workers are so poor.

Another billionaire Tom Cotton serves is the dead animal capitalist John H. Tyson. His family's Tyson Foods — based in Springdale, Arkansas — had sales of nearly $53 billion last year.

At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, John Tyson took out full-page newspaper ads demanding that all meatpacking and poultry plants be immediately reopened. Within two days, President Trump issued an executive order doing so.

This resulted in 2,866 cases of the coronavirus in Tyson's Arkansas plants from May 19, 2020, to April 8, 2021, nearly a third of the state's workplace COVID cases. Across the country, twice as many workers died in Tyson's plants than any other meatpacker.

Unite against hate

Eleven Jewish people were murdered by a neo-Nazi at the Tree of Life – Or L'Simcha Congregation – synagogue in Pittsburgh on Oct. 27, 2018. The local Muslim community raised more than $150,000 for the victims.

The gunman, Robert Gregory Bowers, blamed Jewish people for transporting migrants on his Gab.com account. Anti-immigrant hate is a weapon used by all reactionaries.

Anne Frank's family and thousands of other Jews were prevented from escaping the Nazis by the bigoted 1924 U.S. Immigration Act. It was repealed in 1965, the same year the Voting Rights Act was passed after demonstrators in Selma, Alabama, were clubbed by George Wallace's state troopers.

Tom Cotton, J.D. Vance, and two other senators are sponsoring legislation that would strip citizenship from the children of immigrants.

This unconstitutional bill would overturn the 14th Amendment, which was

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written in the blood of hundreds of thousands of Union Army soldiers who died in the Civil War. Cotton is a neo-Confederate.

President Biden also catered to anti-immigrant bigotry when he curbed the right to asylum for immigrants.

When he began his first presidential campaign, Trump denounced Mexican immigrants as "rapists." The next day, on June 17, 2015, Hitler supporter Dylann Roof murdered nine Black people in the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, in Charleston, South Carolina.

It's been Black places of worship that have been the biggest targets of racist violence. Ku Klux Klan members bombed the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham. Alabama on Sept. 16, 1963. Four Black girls — Addie Mae Collins (14); Carol Denise McNair (11); Carole Robertson (14); and Cynthia Wesley (14) — were murdered.

Everybody knew it was the Klan or some other hate group that was responsible. Not so the National Review, which in its Oct. 1, 1963, issue asked: "Whether in fact the explosion was the act of a provocateur – of a Communist, or of a crazed Negro." Today this rag supports the genocide of Palestinian and Lebanese people.

The same Los Angeles Police Department that attacked demonstrators on June 25 protesting the sale of Palestinian land, attacked the Nation of Islam's Mosque No. 27 on April 27, 1962.

They shot Mosque secretary Ronald X Stokes in the heart, killing him. Six other NOI members were wounded, including William X Rogers who was left paralyzed.

The campaign to stop the sales of stolen Palestinian land is linked to every other progressive struggle. Palestine and Lebanon will win!

Baltimore banner drop for Palestine & Lebanon

Peoples Power Assembly members hold up banner, taking a stand for Palestine and Lebanon.

SLL photo: Sharon Black

By People's Power Assembly

Oct. 4, Baltimore – Peoples Power Assembly holds a rush hour banner drop in answer to international calls for Friday actions to end aggression on Palestine and Lebanon.

Protesters assaulted as illegal Palestinian land sales continue in NY and NJ

PAL-Awda NY/NJ called protests against the illegal sales of Palestinian land held on Sept. 15 and 16 in Cedarhurst, New York, and South Hackensack, New Jersey. The following is their statement on the Cedarhurst action.

This week, both in Cedarhurst, New York, and South Hackensack, New Jersey, illegal sales of stolen Palestinian land were conducted — sales reserved exclusively for vetted Zionists who undergo an extensive and discriminatory registration process. And yet another is scheduled for Tuesday in Pikesville, Maryland.

In a scene reminiscent of attacks on civil rights marches in the South, protestors of the segregated land sale in Cedarhurst were confronted by a mob of violent bigots and brutally attacked by Nassau County police on horses. Officers on horseback trampled over protesters, including women and children, as they forcibly relocated us into a confined "free speech zone," out of sight and sound of the venue we were protesting.

The chief executive and police commissioner were present, overseeing this blatant infringement of our rights. A deputy inspector threatened that anyone who "protested" while walking would be arrested. The Nassau County police and government put the greed of racist real estate interests over the rights of the people.

The cops chose to assault protesters rather than shut down the illegal land sale, which is being held in violation of U.S. civil rights laws, Biden's executive order on the West Bank of 2/1/24, and 20 some additional state, federal, and international laws. Nassau County police swiftly arrested a protester for wearing a mask, all while ignoring the both domestically and internationally illegal sale happening in their own jurisdiction, right under their noses. Their selective enforcement of the "law" underscores a troubling double standard and their continuous efforts to protect domestic Zionist terrorists, thereby further facilitating Palestinian land theft, occupation, and Gazan genocide in the belly of the beast. #

U.S. cities join world in solidarity

Al-Aqsa Flood anniversary

Oct. 7 marks the one-year anniversary of the Al-Aqsa Flood operation, the Palestinian people's heroic break through the concentration camp walls built by the Zionist regime around Gaza.

It is also the one-year anniversary of the U.S.-Israeli genocide, while these imperialists have launched a horrific war on the Lebanese people, murdering over 2,000. The resistance forces of Palestine, Lebanon, Yemen, Iraq, Iran, Syria, and other parts of the region remain undaunted.

This weekend of Oct. 5-6, people worldwide from Caracas, Venezuela, to Baltimore, Maryland, have demonstrated solidarity with Palestine and Lebanon.

20,000 march for Palestine and Lebanon in NYC

Twenty thousand people came to Manhattan's Times Square on Oct. 5 to mark the one-year anniversary of the Al-Aqsa Flood uprising. Since then, at least 50,000 Palestinian and Lebanese people have been killed by the Zionist apartheid state using U.S.-made and paid-for weapons. The actual figure may be far higher.

Speakers denounced the genocide of Palestinians and the invasion of Lebanon. They pointed out that none of these war crimes would have been possible without the backing of the Pentagon and the Biden-Harris administration. Speakers also linked the Palestinian struggle to struggles in Haiti, Sudan, and Congo.

The militant action was called by the Shut It Down for Palestine Coalition. People marched downtown to Washington Square Park in Lower Manhattan.

People marched downtown to Washington Square Park in Lower Manhattan. There were labor, healthcare, Puerto Rican, Filipino, and Korean contingents in the march.

Along the street, onlookers showed their support. A hot dog vendor kept waving a Palestinian flag even after the marchers passed.

Caribbean women linked their arms together and chanted "Free, free Palestine" while waiting for a bus. Supporting Palestine and Lebanon has become the cause of the world.

A shorter, very spirited rally was held in Washington Square Park. Palestine and Lebanon will win!

Thousands gather in San Diego to protest Israeli genocide

Over 2,000 showed up in solidarity with Palestine on Saturday, Oct. 5, in front of the County Administration Building in San Diego for a rally and march.

Large banners on the grass with body bags and pictures of men, women, and children honoring 27,000 Martyrs of Palestine killed by Israeli Genocide using U.S. Dollars.

The rally began with chants in Arabic and English. The Palestinian Youth Movement, Healthcare Workers for Palestine, National Lawyers Guild SD, Code Pink, Jewish Voice for Peace, and BDS Movement (Boycott, Divestment & Sanction) spoke at the rally. Then, the people took it to the streets.

Contributors: Struggle-La Lucha New York bureau, Gloria Verdieu in San Diego, and Gregory E. Williams in New Orleans

with Palestine and Lebanon

New Orleans coalition shuts downtown in support of Palestine

On Oct. 5, several hundred rallied at the historic African American cultural site Congo Square and marched downtown, shutting down busy areas, including Canal Street. The action was called by a coalition led by the Palestinian Youth Movement New Orleans and Masjid Omar. #

Clockwise; Times Square N.Y.,
SLL Photo: Steve Millies

Los Angeles SLL Photo: Maggie Vascasseno

New Orleans placard decries Israel's use of Palestinian political prisoners; the New Orlean March
SLL photos: Gregory E. Williams

Baltimore placard, left, ties local police brutality to Israeli training
SLL photo: Sharon Black

San Diego protesters hold Palestinian and Lebanese flags; cover the ground with body bags
SLL photos Gloria Verdieu

Hurricane chaos: Capitalism fails in a crisis

Continued from page 1

The labor movement could help organize this evacuation.

Where did the trains go?

A major way to evacuate people would be to use extra passenger trains. But railroad passenger service has shriveled.

Back in 1955, U.S. railroads owned 32,000 passenger cars. Accounting for dining cars and other equipment, this fleet could carry more than a million passengers in coaches and sleeping cars.

Amtrak currently has around 1,500 passenger cars. The commuter railroad agencies have maybe another 2,000.

Railroads used to carry tens of thousands to special events. Just for the Army Navy Game traditionally held in Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania Railroad would run dozens of charter trains carrying football fans. (The Pennsylvania's tracks between New York City and Washington D.C. are now part of Amtrak's Northeast Corridor.)

Since railroad passenger cars are roomier than planes or buses, they would be especially needed to carry disabled and older people.

The CSX rail system is headquartered in Jacksonville, Florida, and has nearly 21,000 miles of track throughout the eastern United States. Last year, it had revenues of nearly $15 billion.

The former railroads that formed CSX dumped their passenger trains back in 1971 when Amtrak was formed. CSX, however, has a fleet of 14 business cars that carry its executives in luxury.

People fill up sandbags at Donna Fiala Eagle Lakes Community Park in Naples, Florida, as Hurricane Milton approaches the state.

Used in a relay of several trips, this equipment could carry thousands of people to safety. Why hasn't CSX offered to use this equipment? Former CSX CEO John Snow was Bush's Treasury Secretary while people died needlessly during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Capitalist cutbacks, including cutbacks in passenger trains, can kill. Despite U.S. economic sanctions, socialist Cuba evacuated 2.6 million people — nearly a quarter of its population — before Hurricane Ike struck in 2008.

We need what Cuba has, a socialist revolution. #

How fossil fuel giants fueled the storm crisis

Continued from page 5

As they develop, the storms pick up much more moisture as they work their way across oceans. It isn't uncommon now for hurricanes to slow down after landfall and dump rain on a region for sustained periods. What Katrina did to New Orleans and now Helene did to Asheville, North Carolina, are perfect examples of that.

Global warming and climate change can be reversed. Renewables in the form of solar, wind, and geothermal energy are already an important component, even with the question of intermittency, which still needs to be resolved. Electric vehicles can limit emissions from the millions of cars traveling daily.

The People's Republic of China has been instrumental in the progress that has been made in those areas. Other technologies and ideas may improve on these or spawn whole new ideas that can lower global temperatures.

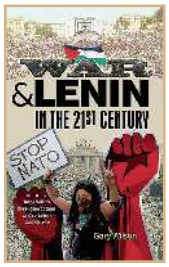
The hard science developed around climate change proves that fossil fuels are the root cause. But another kind of science leads us to the solution: social science. Private ownership of the means of production – the profit system – is a roadblock to our planet's recovery. Part 2 will explore the role of the U.S. empire in causing global warming and the role China is playing in cleaning up the atmosphere. #

'WAR AND LENIN in the 21st Century'

NEW - Updated to include U.S. complicity in the Gaza genocide and military profiteering.

Published on the centenary of Vladimir Lenin's death. The revolutionary leader of the Soviet Union and key contributor to Marxist theory, wrote "**Imperialism,the Highest Stage of Capitalism**" in 1916. It remains an influential critique of imperialism.

Available in paperback or kindle at tinyurl.com/LeninAndWar



Biden-Harris administration escalates war drive against Iran

By Lev Koufax

Recent weeks have seen the U.S. war machine substantially escalate its proxy war against Iran via "Israel" and other regional partners. On Sept. 27, the U.S.-backed Zionist regime assassinated Hezbollah Secretary General Hassan Nasrallah, a key Iranian ally and leader in the Axis of Resistance.

United States President and warmonger-in-chief Joe Biden issued a statement in full support of Nasrallah's assassination and "Israel's" general escalation against Lebanon. Biden didn't stop there. He proudly declared that the "United States fully supports Israel's right to defend itself against Hezbollah, Hamas, the Houthis, and any other Iranian-supported terrorist groups."

As an apartheid regime built on the back of colonization and genocide, "Israel" has no right to self-defense. The fact is, the people of Palestine and their regional allies will fight for the complete liberation of the Arab world from U.S.-Israel terror. Palestine's struggle for liberation, whether it be the armed struggle or the political struggle, is a fight for the very survival of a people.

So when the U.S. president, the face of imperialism, declares that the imperialist military structure will support Zionism in "self-defense," what he means is that the U.S. will provide the Zionist entity with whatever it needs to fight its masters' enemies. In this case, that enemy is Iran. Since Biden's speech, the U.S. military and propaganda machine has only escalated the saber-rattling against Iran.

On Oct. 4, six days after Biden's statement, U.S. aircraft and warships launched strikes against 12 military and civilian sites across Yemen. Ansar Allah, Yemen's ruling political party, is a key ally to Iran in the region. Yemen's strikes against U.S. naval vessels and disruption of Red Sea shipping lanes are a crucial part of the Axis of Resistance's overall fight to stop the Zionist entity. The U.S. cannot allow this sort of coordination in resistance to threaten its strongest and most profitable military base, known as "Israel."

As such, the U.S. imperialist class, including the defense industry, big tech, and automotive companies, will support whatever action is needed to secure the Zionist entity, even if this means marching toward war with Iran.

On Oct. 14, as the Israeli assault on Gaza and Lebanon continued, hundreds of protesters, led by Jewish Voice for Peace, staged a sit-in at the New York Stock Exchange; some 200 were arrested. They demanded an end to Israel's genocide and to war profiteering by companies like Raytheon and Lockheed Martin.

To that end, the Biden administration has already taken several steps to militarily escalate against Iran. On Oct. 8, State Department Spokesman Mattew Miller clarified the Biden regime's position on "Israel's" current war in Southern Lebanon. Miller announced that the regime no longer supports any ceasefire between occupation forces and Hezbollah. Further, the Biden regime is now fully behind the IOF's ground incursions into Lebanon. Hezbollah is another key player in the Axis of Resistance and a close ally of Iran.

In its latest move, the Biden regime deployed a THAAD missile system and 100 U.S. troops to occupied Palestine in support of the anticipated Zionist response to Iran's Oct. 1 ballistic missile attack on the Zionist military infrastructure.

The Zionist regime's counter-strike on Iran is being planned in close coordination with the White House and the Pentagon. Such plans could include missile strikes on the Iranian oil industry and other civilian sectors.

As The Cradle reported, the expanding Zionist war has meant big profits for the Western defense industry. The Quincy Institute published a report: "Israel's wars mean 'massive' returns for U.S. arms company investors."

"Investors in weapons stocks have enjoyed record gains over the past year, dramatically outperforming the major stock indexes in a stock rally that analysts are attributing to violence and instability in the Middle East," the report says.

'…weapons stocks have enjoyed record gains over the past year, dramatically outperforming the major stock indexes in a rally that analysts are attributing to violence and instability…'

Military escalation against Iran serves to keep the gravy train rolling at the cost of millions of starving and dying people across the Middle East. As long as that is the case, then the U.S. will continue to fund and coordinate the Zionist war against Iran and its allies.

Lev Koufax is an anti-Zionist Jewish activist.

Free after 59 days
Detained protesters released in Nigeria

By Maggie Vascassenno

Abuja, Nigeria, Oct. 3 — Detained End Bad Governance protesters were released on bail after spending 59 days in detention.

This movement began on July 29 of this year using the hashtags #EndBadGovernance and #EndBadGovernanceInNigeria in response to worsening conditions in the country.

President Bola Tinubu's government has implemented austerity measures (cutting social services and fuel subsidies, etc.) at the direction of the neocolonial World Bank, dominated by the U.S. and its imperialist junior partners like the U.K., Germany, and Japan.

As of Oct. 16, Nigeria's inflation rate was 32.70% based on the Consumer Price Index.

The World Food Program says that in June-August, 26.5 million Nigerians faced acute hunger, up from 18.16 million at the end of 2023, an increase of 31.5%.

Screenshot from video of Nigeria protesters after their release.

Instead of working to meet the needs of the people, the government has responded to the protests with repression. State security forces killed at least 21 people and arrested over 1,000.

The working-class people of the U.S. have more in common with the struggling Nigerian people than we do with Trump and Harris or any billionaire.

Solidarity with the people of Nigeria! #

Inicio de una histórica presidencia en México, Claudia Sheinbum Pardo

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peranza que nosotros teníamos, hoy las mujeres indígenas estamos de fiesta, pero no solamente las mujeres indígenas, también todas las mujeres".

Luego de la ceremonia, la Presidenta se dirigió al pueblo que llenaba la Plaza, para agradecerle y anunciar los objetivos de su gobierno. Éstos los ha resumido en un programa de 100 puntos que prioriza los intereses del pueblo, sobre todo de las comunidades más desventajadas, y sus mujeres que han sido objeto de tanta violencia. Frente a la ola de políticas neoliberales privatizadoras que arropa al mundo, Sheinbaum prometió que no habrá privatizaciones. En este vídeo de YouTube se recogen las propuestas en detalle: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KmF32bGL0Vw

Pero, ¿Quién es Claudia Sheinbum Pardo? ¿Se podrá confiar en ese discurso tan esperanzador?

La Presidenta corrió bajo la bandera de la coalición Sigamos Haciendo Historia, compuesta por Morena, el Partido del Trabajo, y el Partido Verde Ecologista y es sucesora política de López Obrador, jurando seguir el proceso progresista de la Cuarta Transformación de México que había iniciado éste bajo su coalición Juntos Haremos Historia. Es interesante destacar que ella superó los votos recibidos por Obrador en el 2018.

Claudia Sheinbaum es además una mujer producto de una familia de científicos quienes participaban activamente en la izquierda mexicana. Su padre militaba en el Partido Comunista Mexicano. Es madre y abuela. Tiene un doctorado en ingeniería ambiental, maestría en ingeniería de la energía y licenciatura en física lo que la cualifica para las posiciones que hasta ahora ha ocupado: Por ejemplo, en el 2000 fungió como Secretaria de Medio Ambiente del Distrito Federal donde ejecutó varios proyectos en beneficio del medioambiente.

En julio de 2018 se convirtió en la primera mujer electa jefa de gobierno de la Ciudad de México donde inició programas que beneficiaban a los estratos más desventajados. Entre ellos, el de centros comunitarios de formación económica, cultural y deportiva llamados "Pilares", centros de educación como el Instituto de Estudios Superiores Rosario Castellanos, y la Universidad de la Salud.

Son muchas y variadas sus contribuciones en beneficio del pueblo mexicano. En contra de la violencia de género declaró la Alerta de Violencia de Género que redundó en programas de atención, incluyendo la construcción de 710 kilómetros de senderos seguros bajo el lema "Camina libre, camina segura", para garantizar la seguridad de las mujeres mientras caminan por la ciudad.

Su programa de gobierno es muy abarcador y ambicioso. Su cumplimiento será un extraordinario avance hacia un futuro más seguro y feliz para todas las personas mexicanas. No queda otra sino desear todo el éxito posible al pueblo de México y a su presidenta Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo.

¡Viva México!

Nota: Joubert-Ceci se encontraba en la Ciudad de México como invitada al Seminario Internacional Los Partidos y una Nueva Sociedad auspiciado por el Partido del Trabajo.

Beginning of a historic presidency in Mexico, Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo

By Berta Joubert-Ceci

SLL photo: Berta Joubert-Ceci

Indigenous women carrying a banner that says 'It is the time for women, time for the Indigenous people.'

Last Monday, Oct. 1, Mexico City became an immense festival celebrating the swearing-in of the first female president in the history of that nation.

The atmosphere on the way to the Plaza del Zócalo became more festive and crowded as one advanced along the adjacent avenues where at four in the afternoon, after being sworn in as president that same morning before the Congress of the Republic, Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo would appear to share with the people. The crowd was such, even long before the scheduled time, that this writer could not take another step. The crowd, in a compact form, dragged me along.

The joy, the national pride, and above all the Hope, were reflected in the faces of each and everyone, people of all ages. They came from many of the 32 states of the nation and even from the Diaspora in the United States, political, community, and union organizations. Indigenous and Afro contingents, women, and schoolchildren. Each one with their distinctive organizational flags along with the Mexican tricolor national emblem. Huge puppets and musical bands, street vendors offering everything from succulent typical delicacies like the elotes (corn), to masks and dolls honoring López Obrador.

Huge banners thanked the administration of Andrés Manuel López Obrador for the achievements obtained during his six-year term as President and welcomed Claudia Sheinbaum. The most frequently sung slogan could be heard consistently with various rhythms and music: "It is an honor to be with Claudia today." They addressed her informally, it was their beloved Claudia, the Claudia of the people. "Claudia, my friend, the people are with you," they chanted.

Then, on the stage set up in the Zócalo, a procession of 133 Indigenous women authorities representing the five regions of the country came up to lead the cleansing and purification ceremony and hand over the sacred Staff of Command, a symbol of political and spiritual power, to the new President.

The sentiment that resonated in Mexican women that day was expressed by one of the authorities who, upon offering the staff of command, said to the President: "Sister Claudia, you are the voice of those of us who have not had a voice for a long time, of our people, you are the hope that we had, today Indigenous women are celebrating, but not only Indigenous women, but also Afromexican women, all women."

After the ceremony, the President addressed the people who filled the Plaza to thank them and announce the objectives of her government. These have been summarized in a 100-point program that prioritizes the interests of the people, especially of the most disadvantaged communities, and the women who have been the object of so much violence. Faced with the wave of neoliberal privatization policies that is sweeping the world, Sheinbaum promised that there will be no privatizations.

This YouTube video collects the proposals in detail: youtube.com/watch?v=KmF32bGL0Vw.

But, who is Claudia Sheinbum Pardo? Can we trust this encouraging speech?

The President ran under the banner of the coalition Sigamos Haciendo Historia (Let's Keep Making History), made up of Morena, the Labor Party, and the Green Ecologist Party and is the political successor of López Obrador, swearing to continue the progressive process of the Fourth Transformation of Mexico that he had started under his coalition Juntos Haremos Historia (Together We Will Make History). It is interesting to note that she surpassed the votes received by Obrador in 2018.

Claudia Sheinbaum is also a woman from a family of scientists who actively participated in the Mexican left. Her father was a member of the Mexican Communist Party. She is a mother and grandmother; has a PhD in environmental engineering, a master's degree in energy engineering and a bachelor's degree in physics, which qualifies her for the positions she has held so far: For example, in 2000 she served as Secretary of the Environment of the Federal District where she propelled several projects to benefit the environment.

In July 2018 she became the first woman elected head of government of Mexico City where she initiated programs that benefited the most disadvantaged strata. Among them, the community centers for economic, cultural and sports training called "Pilares," educational centers such as the Rosario Castellanos Institute of Higher Studies, and the University of Health.

Her contributions to the benefit of the Mexican people are many and varied. Against gender violence she declared the Gender Violence Alert that resulted in care programs, including the construction of 710 kilometers of safe paths under the motto "Walk free, walk safely," to guarantee the safety of women while walking throughout the city.

Her government program is very comprehensive and ambitious. Its fulfillment will be an extraordinary step towards a safer and happier future for all Mexicans. We can only wish all possible success to the Mexican people and their president Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo.

Long live Mexico!

Note: Joubert-Ceci was in Mexico City as a guest of the International Seminar The Parties and a New Society sponsored by the Labor Party.

Nobel Peace Prize winner: Gaza like Japan after U.S. atomic bombs

A child in Gaza. Photo: Palestine Information Center

The U.S. detonated nuclear bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. The intensity of the explosion left this shadow of a child playing.

Toshiyuki Mimaki, co-chair of Nihon Hidankyo, the Japanese organization honored with the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize for its anti-nuclear activism, drew comparisons between the plight of children in Gaza and those impacted by the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945.

"In Gaza, bleeding children are being held (by their parents). It's like Japan 80 years ago," Mimaki said at a news conference in Tokyo. "Children in Hiroshima and Nagasaki lost their fathers in the war and their mothers in the bombings. They became orphans."

Mimaki expressed his belief that "the dedicated individuals working in Gaza" should have received the Peace Prize, specifically mentioning the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), also a nominee for the award.

Mimaki was three years old when the U.S. dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945, killing over 200,000, including deaths from radiation poisoning.

Three days later, another bomb hit Nagasaki, killing an additional 100,000. About 70,000 of those killed in Hiroshima and Nagasaki were enslaved Korean laborers.

The Nobel Peace Prize for 2024 was awarded to Nihon Hidankyo, a grassroots movement representing survivors of the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, known as Hibakusha.

Nihon Hidankyo, founded in 1956, has been a voice for atomic bomb survivors, providing testimony of the horrors of nuclear warfare and advocating for the total abolition of nuclear weapons.

–Gary Wilson

Cuba faces nationwide blackout, activists renew calls for an end to the blockade

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controlled by, or acting for or on behalf of, Cubametales," which was designated for operating in Venezuela's oil sector. Treasury Deputy Secretary Justin G. Muzinich stated, "Cuba has played a direct role in preventing the return of democracy to Venezuela." The Treasury Department made it clear that since Cubametales' designation, the company has faced significant difficulties as businesses avoided transactions with it, prompting Cubametales to suggest Corporacion Panamericana S.A. as an intermediary.

The Treasury was adamant: Cuba should not be afforded the opportunity to acquire fuel for its needs due to its failure to distance itself from Venezuela in line with Washington's expectations. In January 2020, shortly after the sanctions on Panamericana, the Cubapetroleo Union announced in a released statement that "throughout 2019, the U.S. Government imposed new and successive sanctions on companies, shipowners, vessels, and insurance firms to hinder the delivery of fuel to our nation." They clarified that following the sanctioning of Panamericana Corporation, "The Company's suppliers refused to fulfill deliveries slated for late December and early January… efforts to procure LNG from other markets have not succeeded. We continue working to import LNG."

Democratic President Joe Biden, who took office shortly after the imposition of sanctions on Panamericana, did not significantly change U.S. policy toward Cuba. He maintained the additional 243 sanctions enacted under Trump and continued to designate Cuba as a state sponsor of terrorism, further tightening the nation's economic constraints and trade capabilities.

Children drawing at a community project in Cotorro, Havana. The project includes opportunities for kids and impaired adults.
Photo by Leni Villagomez Reeves.

The nationwide blackout in Cuba highlights the significant impact the blockade has on the population, prompting many solidarity organizations to renew their calls for President Biden to lift these damaging restrictions.

Reporting by People's Dispatch

Promise of change in Puerto Rico

By Berta Joubert-Ceci

With each passing day, Puerto Rico sinks deeper into a neoliberal process that threatens its very existence. From the purely geological issue, with supposed legal approvals for construction in coastal locations that involve the removal of mangroves and corals that are the natural barriers against coastal erosion, to the displacement of communities that give way to luxury housing for millionaire foreigners. There is a replacement of our population.

Basic health and education services are almost nonexistent. In short, life in Puerto Rico has become very difficult. While our central problem is the colonial state, it is imperative to stop this destructive bleeding.

And urgent measures are needed such as the removal of the corrupt, neoliberal and right-wing administration in the government represented by the New Progressive Party (PNP) that aspires to make PUR a U.S. state. However, it also has its collaborators in the People's Democratic Party (PDP), who favor the colonial situation.

To remove them, there is a chance in the upcoming November 5 elections. Despite the prohibitions of the right wing, an electoral alliance has been formed between two progressive forces, the Puerto Rican Independence Party (PIP) and the Movimiento Victoria Ciudadana.

Those who vote for the PNP do not love Puerto Rico.

In the streets, talking to the people, a new hope for change can be perceived. And the support for the Alliance's gubernatorial candidate, Juan Dalmau of the PIP, is growing.

Even Puerto Rican rapper, singer Bad Bunny, who despite the likes or dislikes of his songs, has shown a great love for his country, and has always been present in progressive political campaigns, hired a billboard signing to send messages against the corruption of both parties and to urge the people to vote for a better country, which implies a vote for the Alliance. Other artists such as René from Calle 13, (the author of Latin America) have also published through the networks their adhesion to the Alliance as the best electoral option.

But in the face of this boom, there are also the corrupt maneuvers of the government that has done everything possible to combat the Alliance. From prohibiting an electoral front and making it difficult to register new voters, to closing permanent registration centers, excluding minority parties from the State Elections Commission so they cannot monitor the processes, increasing fraudulent advance votes including already deceased voters.

But the need for profound change is increasing the awareness of the people, and it will be difficult for them to stop the change. #

Promesa de cambio en Puerto Rico

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hesión al candidato para la gobernación por la Alianza, Juan Dalmau del PIP.

Hasta Bad Bunny quien a pesar de que gusten o no sus canciones, ha demostrado un gran amor por su patria y siempre ha dicho presente en campañas políticas progresistas, contrató una firma de billboards para enviar mensajes contra la corrupción de ambos partidos y exhortar al pueblo a votar por un mejor país, lo que implica un voto por la Alianza. Otros artistas como René de Calle 13, (el autor de Latinoamérica) también han publicado por las redes su adhesión a la Alianza como la mejor opción electoral.

Pero ante este auge, también existen las maniobras corruptas del gobierno que ha hecho todo lo posible para combatir la Alianza. Desde prohibir un frente electoral y dificultar la inscripción de nuevos votantes, hasta cerrar los centros permanentes de inscripción, excluir a los partidos minoritarios de la Comisión Estatal de Elecciones para que no puedan monitorear los procesos, aumentando los votos adelantados de manera fraudulenta incluyendo a votantes ya fallecidos.

Pero la necesidad de un cambio profundo está aumentando la concientización del pueblo, y será difícil detener el cambio.

Desde Puerto Rico, para Radio Clarín de Colombia, les habló, Berta Joubert-Ceci

2024 National Day of Mourning

Thursday, November 28, 2024 at 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST

Cole's Hill, Plymouth, MA

FOR UPDATES: Please join and check out the UAINE facebook group https://www.facebook.com/groups/UAINE for updates on National Day of Mourning this year. Our website uaine.org will be updated, but not as quickly or frequently.

Facebook event: https://bit.ly/NDOM2024

Inicio de una histórica presidencia en México, Claudia Sheinbum Pardo

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

El pasado lunes 1ro de octubre, la Ciudad de México se convirtió en una enorme fiesta para celebrar la juramentación de la primera mujer presidenta en la historia de esa nación.

El ambiente rumbo a la Plaza del Zócalo se iba haciendo más festivo y transitado según se avanzaba por las avenidas colindantes donde a las cuatro de la tarde, luego de que juramentara como presidenta esa misma mañana ante el Congreso de la República, aparecería Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo para compartir con su pueblo. La aglomeración era tal, aún mucho antes del tiempo pautado, que esta escritora no pudo dar un paso más. La muchedumbre, en forma compacta, me arrastraba.

La alegría, el orgullo patrio y sobre todo la Esperanza, se reflejaban en los rostros de cada una de las personas, de todas las edades. Llegaron de muchos de los 32 estados de la nación e incluso desde la Diáspora en Estados Unidos, organizaciones políticas, comunitarias, sindicales. Contingentes indígenas y afros, de mujeres, escolares. Cada cual con su estandarte y sus banderas mexicanas. Enormes marionetas y bandas musicales, vendedoras y vendedores ambulantes ofreciendo desde suculentas delicias típicas como el elote, hasta caretas y muñecos honrando a López Obrador.

Enormes cruzacalles agradecían a la administración de Andrés Manuel López Obrador por los logros obtenidos en su sexenio de gobernación y le daban la bienvenida a Claudia Sheinbaum. Se oía consitentemente con diversos ritmos y musicalización la consigna más cantada: "Es un honor estar con Claudia hoy". Se le tuteaba, era su Claudia querida, la Claudia del pueblo. "Claudia, amiga, el pueblo está contigo", decían.

Luego, en el escenario colocado en el Zócalo, fue subiendo una comitiva de 133 mujeres Autoridades indígenas representando las cinco regiones del país, quienes encabezarían la ceremonia de limpieza y purificación y le harían entrega del Bastón sagrado de Mando, símbolo de poder político y espiritual a la nueva presidenta.

El sentimiento que resonaba en las mujeres mexicanas ese día fue expresado por una de las autoridades quien al ofrecer el bastón de mando le dijo a la Presidenta: "Hermanita Claudia, eres la voz de las que no tuvimos voz por mucho tiempo, de nuestros pueblos, eres la es-

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Promesa de cambio en Puerto Rico

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

Cada día que pasa, Puerto Rico se hunde más en un proceso neoliberal que amenaza su propia existencia. Desde la cuestión puramente geológica, con aprobaciones supuestamente legales para la construcción en lugares costeros que implican la remoción de manglares y corales que son las barreras naturales contra la erosión costera, hasta el desplazamiento de comunidades que dan paso a viviendas lujosas para extranjeros millonarios. Hay una sustitución de nuestra población.

Ya los servicios básicos de salud y educación son casi inexistentes. En fin, la vida en Puerto Rico se ha hecho muy difícil.

Si bien nuestro problema central es el estado colonial, es imprescindible detener este sangrado destructor.

Y se necesitan medidas urgentes como la remoción de la administración corrupta, neoliberal y derechista en el gobierno representado por el Partido Nuevo Progresista que aspira a que PUR se convierta en un estado de los EUA. Sin embargo, también tiene sus colaboradores en el Partido Popular Democrático, quienes favorecen la situación colonial.

Para removerlos, hay una posibilidad en las próximas elecciones del 5 de noviembre. A pesar de las prohibiciones de la derecha, se ha formado una Alianza electoral entre dos fuerzas progresistas, El Partido Independentista Puertorriqueño y el Movimiento Victoria Ciudadana.

En las calles, hablando con el pueblo se puede percibir una nueva esperanza de cambio. Y cada vez más aumenta la ad-

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